



Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #50 – May 13, 2004
SEMA's Homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov

SEMA Announces Homeland Security Grant Project Managers

SEMA announced Homeland Security Grant project managers. Tom Mohr is the Homeland Security Grant Program Manager; Debbie Rathert is the Program Assistant.

Mohr (573-526-9245) is the POC for the Homeland Security Response Teams and the Forward Regional Response Teams. Rathert (573-526-9224) is the POC for City and County Homeland Security Grants and the Volunteer Fire Department/Fire Protection District Grants. Ricky Presberry (573-526-9223) is the POC for Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection Program, and Interoperable Communications Equipment Grants. Dee Solindas (573-526-9148) is the POC for Urban Area Strategic Initiative (USAI) Grants for the Kansas City and the St. Louis areas. Alysia Beaudoin (573-526-9250) is the POC for the CERT Program Grants. Meg McLaughlin (573-526-9256) is the POC for Citizen's Council Program Grants. Debbie Cheshire (573-526-9111) is the POC for HS Training and Exercises Grants. Don Koller (573-526-9220) is the POC for Reimbursement for Equipment Purchases. Dennise Schaben (573-526-9229) and Stephanie Bise (573-526-9227) are Administrative Assistants.

Citizen's Corp Application Update

SEMA has \$532,800 in federal dollars to allocate to local jurisdictions for Citizen Corps programs. Applications received totaled more than \$1.9 million in requests. Meg McLaughlin and Dante Gliniecki are currently reassessing the need for and availability of additional funds through the Homeland Security Grant Program. As soon as a determination is made, Meg will be in contact with communities with the funding information.

Peer Reviews Conducted on City/County, Fire, Law Enforcement, & Interoperable Communications HS Grants

The deadline for homeland security grant submissions has past and the peer review process is now underway. Fire grant applications are being reviewed by the regional fire mutual aid coordinators; the law enforcement grant applications are being reviewed by a group consisting of personnel from the Missouri Police Chief/Sheriffs Association, Missouri Dept. of Public Safety, Missouri State Highway Patrol and the State Interoperability Executive Committee. Personnel from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, State Interoperability Executive Committee, Advisory Committee for 9-1-1 Service Oversight and a local EMD with expertise in communication and EOC operations will review the Interoperable Communications grant. All submissions are reviewed and ranked by each group using guidelines developed against ODP grant criteria. SEMA provides administrative support and technical advice (grant compliance) to each group. After each group makes their selections SEMA will compile the results and develop sub grantee award packages. City/County grant are "block grants" and SEMA will review the submissions for grant compliance. This information will also be submitted to ODP with the FY2004 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) Budget for final approval. We expect approval from ODP in late summer

Missouri Dedicates 32nd Weather Transmitter in Cassville

The 32nd Weather Transmitter in Missouri was dedicated Friday, May 7, at Barry Electric Cooperative Offices in Cassville. The transmitter was placed on a Barry Electric Cooperative tower. Following the electric ribbon cutting ceremony, the National Weather Service will use the transmitter for severe advanced weather

warnings to citizens in Barry, Lawrence, and portions of Newton, McDonald and Stone Counties. The radio frequency is **162.525 MHz**. Citizens are urged to purchase tone alert weather radios to receive advanced severe weather warnings.

The project was made possible by a partnership with the Missouri Association of Electric Cooperatives, Barry Electric Cooperative, and KAMO Power in Vinita OK, SEMA, FEMA and the NWS.

SEMA Has EMO III Vacancy in Planning and Disaster Recovery

There is an opening for an EMO III in the Planning and Disaster Recovery Section in Jefferson City. This person works with communities on post-disaster damage assessments. During a presidential declaration, they will work with elected officials on public assistance (infrastructure) projects, monitoring the projects, and project close outs.

The register will open on May 12th and close on June 8th. This is a merit position. Anyone can apply online by going to the Office of Administration (OA) personnel web site or go to the SEMA web site and click on a link to the OA Personnel. An applicant may request OA personnel to mail them an application if they do not have a computer. Applications must be submitted to OA. **OA will evaluate all completed applications.** Applicants can begin the application process at this time. Interested applicants need to contact OA if they have questions regarding the application process, the status of their application or questions on qualifying for the register.

DHS Defines Interoperability Requirements for First Responder Community

DHS released the first comprehensive Statement of Requirements document outlining future technology requirements for public safety wireless communications and interoperability. The requirements can be found at **www.safecomprogram.gov**.

This document provides the public safety community with a shared vision and describes how first responders can use in-the-field information resources more efficiently when responding to a variety of emergency events. Additionally, it will encourage the communications industry to better align its research and development efforts with public safety needs. For more information about the SAFECOM Program, contact safecom@dhs.gov or call 866-969-SAFE.

ODP Offers Free Domestic Preparedness / Exercise Training

The office of Domestic Preparedness has hired many contractors to provide free training on a variety of WMD, Decon, Chemical Detection, Radiation, Equipment Training and Preparedness issues, as well as exercise assistance. The training is free. All requesting agencies need to provide is a room for training and refreshments. Comments or questions concerning the catalog or the Domestic Preparedness Equipment Technical Assistance Program should be addressed to: DPETAP Project Manager developed jointly by Pine Bluff Arsenal and GP in support of DHS/ODP. GP/PBA, PO Box 20308, Pine Bluff, AR 71612 or gwendt@genphysics.com

Jim Charrier is the State Training Officer and your single point of contact for ODP training and scheduling. Once the training has been scheduled DPETAP will work with your local POC. Contact Jim (573-526-9120) or Tina (573-526-9215) if you have any questions.

To apply for the training: Complete the "Training Facilities & Questionnaire" and the "Initial Customer Contact Information Form." The forms are pre-populated for use with your computer and designed for an electronically formatted registration process. Forward, via email to: Jim.Charrier@sema.dps.mo.gov and cc: to Tina.Brown@sema.dps.mo.gov

Bush Signs Presidential Directive #10 on Biodefense

President Bush signed Presidential Directive #10 – Biodefense for the 21st Century. This directive outlines the biodefense program and provides specific directives to further strengthen the significant gains put in place during the past three years.

Threat Awareness includes biological weapons-related intelligence, vulnerability assessments, and anticipation of future threats.

Prevention and Protection includes interdiction and critical infrastructure protection. New initiatives will improve our ability to detect, interdict, and seize weapons technologies and materials to disrupt, and to pursue proliferators through strengthened law enforcement cooperation, including through such mechanisms as Interpol.

Surveillance and Detection includes attack, warning and attribution.

Response and Recovery includes response planning, mass casualty care, risk communication, medical countermeasures, and decontamination. New initiatives will strengthen our ability to provide mass casualty care and to decontaminate the site of an attack.

Some of the programs already in place include: increased research funding; improved environmental detection, human health surveillance and laboratory capabilities; improved the capacity of food, agriculture, and water sectors to prevent and mitigate bioterror attacks; strengthened intelligence and law enforcement efforts to reduce the risk of bioterror attacks; strengthened military biodetection capabilities; established BioWatch to monitor the air over major cities for biological releases; developed Bioshield program to distribute modern, effective drugs and vaccines; assured there is sufficient smallpox vaccine in the Strategic National Stockpile for all citizens; and increased funding for the Strategic National Stockpile.

Texas A&M University and University of Minnesota Head Agro-Security Research

Department of Homeland Security announced Texas A&M University and the University of Minnesota will lead two new Centers of Excellence on agro-security. The Universities and their partners will address security in two key agricultural sectors: foreign animal diseases and food security.

Texas A&M University will head National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense. The Center will address potential threats to animal agriculture including foot-and-mouth disease, Rift Valley fever and Avian influenza. The University of Minnesota will head the Center for Post-Harvest Food Protection and Defense focusing on issues related to post-harvest food protection.

Agro-security the focus for Presidential Directive Nine: Defense of the United States Agriculture and Food, which was issued on January 30, 2004.

DHS Sponsors Higher Education to Enhance Workforce Cyber Security Skills

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Security Agency (NSA) formed a partnership to strengthen information assurance higher education programs to meet America's growing requirements for professional cyber security skills. Priority III of the President's National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace directs the Federal government to both foster training and education programs to support the nation's cyber security needs, and increase the efficiency of existing Federal cyber security programs. This agreement directly responds to these tasks by amplifying an existing, successful program and enhancing cooperation between the agencies.

Explore Will Contact Missouri Fire Departments for National Database

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency contracted with Explore Information Services (Eagan, MN) to develop and maintain a National Fire Station Database for the benefit of state, federal agencies and the insurance industry. Over the next several months, Explore will be contacting Fire Departments/Fire Stations in every Missouri county. Explore will be verifying the accuracy of the NGA records and add new information deem essential for the national database. These changes will be amended into the National Fire Station Database upon completion.

June 20-26 Set for Missouri's Summer Weather Safety Week

The Summer Weather Safety week, June 20-26, is a public awareness campaign hosted by the NWS, SEMA and the Missouri Department of Health. The NWS's "Heat & Lightning information" and OSHA's "Heat Card" are in PDF format. Last year, 14 Missourians died from heath related illnesses. Share this information with your local media, your local civic organizations and your citizens. The information can be downloaded from the SEMA homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov go to the Summer Weather Campaign in the Main body of the homepage.

National Weather Service Contacts for Missouri

Six (6) National Weather Service Reporting Stations cover Missouri. From the West to the East here are your contacts:

Mike Hudson, Kansas City/Pleasant Hill, MO Station, 816-540-5157 or Michael.Hudson@noaa.gov

Steve Runnels, Springfield, MO Station, 417-863-1456 or Steve.Runnels@noaa.gov

Donna Dubberke, Davenport IA Station (Scotland & Clark Counties), 319-391-6729 or Donna.Dubberke@noaa.gov

Jim Kramper, St. Louis, MO Station, 636-447-1876 or James.Kramper@noaa.gov

Ricky Shanklin, Paducah, KY Station for Southeast Missouri, 270-744-6440 or Ricky.Shanklin@noaa.gov

Scott Cordero, Memphis, TN Station (New Madrid and Pemiscot Counties), 901-544-0399 or Scott.Cordero@noaa.gov

Missouri Valley Fire Chiefs Safety Conference

Advanced registration deadline is May 14 for the Missouri Valley Fire Chief's Association Public Education Conference "The Amazing Safety Race." Guest speakers include: Phoenix Chief Alan Brunacini, Comedian David Naster, David Wilcox, Ed.D., and Mary Feeley, CSP, "The Provocateur." Seating is limited. Registration is required for admittance to any part of this conference. For more information contact: Sharon, 2004 Life Safety Public Education, Conference Registration, 913-971-6706, Olathe Kansas or sfricke@olatheks.org

Lakin: Missouri's Largest Insurers Paid \$400 Million-plus To 2003 Tornado Victims Total Losses Certain to Top \$500 Million

Randy McConnell, Missouri Department of Insurance

Missouri's 30 largest auto and homeowner insurers in last May's severe-storm areas paid out more than \$400 million for damages, and the state's overall losses will certainly top \$500 million, Department of Insurance (MDI) Director Scott Lakin said. The May 4 to 11 tornadoes clearly emerged as Missouri's second-most costly insured disaster ever, ranking behind only the April 2001 hailstorm in St. Louis County that could reach \$1 billion in insured losses. The serious flooding of the 1990s largely did not involve private insurance.

The high-volume insurers have written checks for \$401.1 million so far and reported almost \$3 million in pending claims from the May 2003 tornadoes and related storms. Overall, the 30 largest insurers reported 75,385 damage claims that week from all 114 Missouri counties and St. Louis City. Of those, at least 29,753 affected autos and the remainder -- 44,190 -- involved structures. Damage to homes and businesses totaled at least \$328.5 million.

Lakin said insurance company reports so far indicate that:

- Clay County suffered the most severe losses, with at least 3,945 building and 2,424 auto claims that yielded payouts of \$56.4 million.
- Jefferson County, south of St. Louis, registered payments of \$38.4 million after a tornado seriously damaged Desoto.
- The Ozarks had a large concentration of damage in multiple counties with payments reaching \$29.5 million in Camden County (Camdenton),
- \$20.3 million in Cedar County (Stockton),
- \$14 million in Greene County (Battlefield),
- \$9.6 million in Lawrence County (Pierce City) and
- \$19 million in Jasper County (Carl Junction).

Other large payments included \$13.3 million in Cape Girardeau County (Jackson); \$19.9 million in Franklin County; \$9.1 million in St. Louis County; and \$5 million in Lewis County (Canton).

Lakin said the totals on losses should climb above a half-billion dollars because the MDI survey did not include: Claims paid by more than 100 smaller auto and homeowners insurers in the state; Claims with 125 so-called farm or county mutuals; Deductibles paid out of pocket by policyholders; or Losses suffered by uninsured property owners, including damages to public buildings and infrastructure such as roads.

SEMA Training Classes Have Openings

The following free SEMA classes have openings. If you are interested in attending one of these classes please register on line sema.dps.mo.gov then click on the training link in the blue sidebar. You can register on line for any of the following classes:

6/9/04	Small Business Continuity Planning (8am-2pm),	Jefferson City
6/9-10/04	Biological Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical & Explosive,	Creve Coeur
6/15-16/04	Resource Management,	Jefferson City
6/23-24/04	Multi-Hazard Planning for Schools	St. Louis Co.
7/13/04	Small Business Continuity Planning (8am-2pm),	Kansas City
7/21-22/04	Developing and Managing Volunteers	Springfield
8/3-5/04	Exercise Design and Evaluation	Sikeston